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# Waste Tires

## Reduce, Reuse and Recycle Waste Tires

According to the California Integrated Waste Management Board (CIWMB), Californians generate over 31 million scrap tires per year. However, few landfills accept tires because they tend to float to the landfill surface after being covered. As a result, the CIWMB estimates that millions of tons of tires are stockpiled around the state, creating health and safety concerns. In addition, illegally dumped tires in communities create blight.

## Recycled Tire Uses & Products

### 1. Tires as a Fuel Supplement

Using tires as a fuel supplement in cement kilns and cogeneration facilities constitutes the largest market for waste tires, both nationally and in California. Of all waste tires generated in California in 1999, 38.8 percent were used as fuel. Tire Diverted Fuel (TDF) can be whole or shredded tires used as a fuel. TDF is a very high quality fuel having about 13,000 to 15,000 BTU per pound, (7,200 to 8,300 kcal/kg), about the same as a superior quality coal. Most major boiler manufacturers have developed the technology to efficiently burn shredded tires, but to date they are not yet utilizing this resource in significant quantities.

### 2. Civil Engineering

Tires can be used in numerous structural and nonstructural applications, such as alternative daily cover at landfills, lightweight fill, fence construction, and retaining walls.

### 3. Value Added Rubber Products

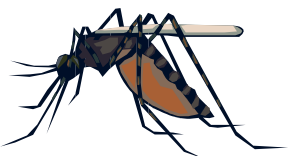
One area that offers more diversion potential for waste tires is through expanding crumb rubber markets. In 1999, an estimated 5.5 million tires were diverted from disposal through crumb rubber applications. End uses included rubberized asphalt, molded products, mats, playground covers, speed bumps, and carpet pads. Recent technological improvements in crumb rubber production allow smaller particle sizes, which have wider applications in molded rubber and composite products.



## Vector Control

How do I eliminate mosquitoes from my old tires?

Empty old tires that may contain standing water. Cover them with impermeable barriers other than soil to prevent entry or accumulation of precipitation; or Use of treatments or methods to prevent or eliminate vector breeding as necessary.



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